

NEVADA STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY

Friday, March 1, 2024 9:00AM

The State Public Charter School Authority board meeting was conducted in-person and virtually.

MINUTES OF MEETING

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT IN-PERSON

Chair Tonia Holmes-Sutton Member Jackson Olsen Member Kurt Thigpen

AUTHORITY STAFF PRESENT & VIRTUAL

Melissa Mackedon, Executive Director Katie Broughton, Director of Authorizing Michael Dang, Management Analyst III Daniel Peltier, Management Analyst III

AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE VIRTUALLY

John Haynal Greg Cloward
Lorna James-Cervantes Miriam Benitez
Darrell Khine Gun Ruder
Adam Johnson Dun Scherer
Shandrea Daniel Valerie Martinez
Ercan Aydogdu Jennifer Emling
Ingmar Berg Lani Luo

Kathy Rudd Tricia Wilbourne

Christina Saenz

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIRTUALLY

Member Sandra Kinne Member Victor Salcido Vice Chair Cindi Rivera Member Ty Whitaker Member Tamika Shauntee Rosales

AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE IN-PERSON

Julie Carver Mia Nelson Nick Sawyer Anthony Vu Benjamin Feinstein Emrullah Eraslan

NEVADA STATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order, Roll Call and Moment of Silence

Tonia Holmes-Sutton, Chair of the State Public Charter School Authority (SPCSA), called the meeting to order at 9:03am. There was a moment of silence honoring the passing of students Madeline Peterson, who attended Pinecrest High School and Huxley Trujillo, who attended White Pine County preschool. The Pledge of Allegiance did not occur. Member Kinne arrived after roll call, member Thigpen arrived at 9:08 am and Vice Chair Cindi Rivera arrived at 11:00 am.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment #1

No public comment.

Agenda Item 3 – Approval of Consent Agenda, January 26, 2024 SPCSA Board Meeting Minutes

Motion: Member Olsen made the motion to approve the consent agenda and the January 26, 2024 board meeting action minutes. Member Salcido seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Agenda Item 4 – SPCSA Charter School Governing Body Governance Standards

Chair Tonia Holmes-Sutton discussed the Governance Standards recently adopted by the Authority pursuant to Assembly Bill 419 (2021).

Agenda Item 5 – SPCSA Executive Director's Report

- a. Introduction to new Board Member, Ty Whitaker
- b. Delinquent schools PERS contributions
- c. New Charter School Enrollment and Facility update
- d. Letters of Intent for New Charter School Applications
- e. Voluntary school tours for SPCSA board members beginning in April

Melissa Mackedon, Executive Director provided the update.

Agenda Item 6 – New School Updates

Dr. Benjamin Feinstein, Executive Director, and Eric Duran-Valle, Interim Board Chair, Vegas Vista Academy, presented an update.

Meeting Break

Agenda Item 7 – Charter School Contract Amendment Applications

Danny Peltier, Management Analyst III, provided the Authority with recommendations related to charter school contract amendment applications, and the Authority may approve or deny the following charter school contract amendment applications based on NRS 388A.276 and NRS 388A.279

- a. Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas Cadence Campus
 - i. Reduction of enrollment cap
- b. Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas Nellis Campus
 - i. Expand enrollment in existing grades, Nellis
 - ii. Construct facility for expansion, Nellis

Motion: Member Thigpen made the motion to grant the Good Cause Exemption request and approve Coral Academy of Science Las Vegas requests to: reduce the enrollment cap at the Cadence campus for the 2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26 school years; expand enrollment at the Nellis campus in existing grades beginning in the 2026 – 27 school year and continuing through the 2028 – 29 school year; and expand the facility at the Nellis AFB with the following condition that the school complete the SPSCA pre-opening process for new schools and campuses for occupation of the additional facility space at the Nellis campus. The motion was seconded by Member Kinne and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 8 - Organizational Performance Review and Recommendations for the 2022-23 School Year

Mike Dang, SPCSA Finance and Organizational Manager, provided the Authority with school-level results and recommendations regarding organizational performance for the 2022-23 school year, including issuing Notices of Concern.

a. 2022-23 SPCSA Organizational Performance Framework Ratings

Motion: Member Olsen made the motion to accept the 2022-23 SPCSA Organizational Performance Framework and delegate to staff the authority to provide final results to governing boards of each charter in the coming weeks. The motion was seconded by member Thigpen and passed unanimously.

b. Issue Notices of Concern - Nevada Prep Charter School

Motion: Member Olsen made the motion to approve SPCSA staff recommendation to issue notification of Notice of Concern to Nevada Prep Charter School. The motion was seconded by member Thigpen and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 9 – Financial Performance Review and Recommendations for the 2022-23 School Year

Mike Dang, Finance and Organizational Manager, provided the Authority with school-level results and recommendations regarding organizational performance for the 2022-23 school year, including issuing Notices of Concern. Items 9a and 9b: Member Kinne recused herself from the vote. Both of these votes were 5-0. Member Kinne rejoined for sub-items 9c and 9d.

a. 2022-23 SPCSA Financial Performance Framework Ratings

Motion: Member Thigpen made the motion to approve the 2022-23 SPCSA Financial Performance Framework Ratings results presented for the schools listed in Appendix A for fiscal year 2023 for the fiscal year for all eight indicators. Member Olsen seconded the motion and it passed unanimous

- b. Issue Notices of Concern
 - i. Battle Born Academy
 - ii. Discovery Charter School
 - iii. Mater Academy of Nevada
 - iv. Nevada Connections Academy
 - v. pilotED Cactus Park
 - vi. Sage Collegiate
 - vii. Sports Leadership and Management Academy

Motion: Member Thigpen made the motion to issue seven notifications of Notice of Concern and require each to develop and submit a financial improvement plan. Also, to provide quarterly updates regarding the implementation of the improvement plan. Member Olsen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- c. Maintain existing Notice of Concern
 - i. CIVICA Academy
 - ii. Democracy Prep
 - iii. Pinecrest Academy of Northern Nevada
 - iv. Signature Preparatory

Motion: Member Olsen made a motion to maintain existing Notices of Concern for the four schools mentioned. Member Thigpen seconded the motion and it passed.

d. Maintain existing Financial Improvement Plan - Legacy Traditional Schools

Motion: Member Olsen made the motion to maintain the existing Financial Improvement Plan for Legacy Traditional Schools and require the school to develop and submit an updated plan for years 2024-2025. The motion was seconded by member Salcido and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 10 - Long-Range Calendar

Executive Director Mackedon walked through the long-range calendar.

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Agenda Item 11 – Public Comment #2

Written public comment can be found within the supporting materials. Public comment was made by Kathy Rudd.

Agenda Item 12 – Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 a.m.